

What is

Assistive Technology?

Assistive Technology (AT) is any device or software that helps individuals with disabilities or older persons do tasks that they would not otherwise be able to perform easily because of the limitations of their disability. Assistive technology also refers to selection, demonstration, and training services. Assistive technology can range from something as simple as a reacher, cane, or bathroom grab-bar to something as complex as a power wheelchair, adaptive computer keyboard, or augmentative communication device.

What are the

Benefits of Assistive Technology?

Assistive Technology enables individuals with disabilities and older persons to remain in their homes and communities, enhance independence and productivity, increase mobility, succeed in school or work, communicate with family and friends, get and keep a job, or participate in recreational activities.

What is the

Idaho Assistive Technology Project?

The Idaho Assistive Technology Project (IATP) is a federally funded program administered by the Center on Disabilities and Human Development at the University of Idaho. It's goal is to increase the availability of assistive devices and services for Idahoans with disabilities, placing special emphasis on serving children with disabilities, individuals with disabilities living in rural areas, older persons, and members of traditionally underserved groups. The IATP exists to serve Idahoans of all ages and disability categories.

What

Services are Available?

The Idaho Assistive Technology Project provides many services that educate individuals with disabilities, family members, school personnel, and professionals about the continuum of assistive technology devices that are available and provide assistance obtaining those devices once a selection has been made. The IATP offers the following statewide services, most of which are completely free of charge:

- Demonstration Centers
- AT and Toy Loaning Library
- Used Equipment Exchange
- Assessment & Information Services
- Assistive Technology Financing Program
- Training and Technical Assistance
- Public Awareness
- Electronic Learning Community



Idaho Assistive Technology Project

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Moscow, ID 83843

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Fax: 208-885-6145

www.idahoat.org

Regional Centers

Coeur d'Alene AT Resource Center

1031 N. Academic Way

Room 130D

Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

208-292-1406

Boise AT Resource Center

3223 E. Front Street

Suite 201

Boise, ID 83702

208-364-4561

Living Independently for Everyone (LIFE, Inc.)

250 S. Skyline, Suite 1

Idaho Falls, ID 83402

208-529-8610

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Idaho Assistive Technology Project



Assistive Technology Services

Device Demonstrations

Prior to making the decision to purchase an expensive assistive technology (AT) device or software, consumers have the opportunity to receive an AT demonstration to support their decision making process. The IATP supports a number of regional centers and around Idaho that offer AT device demonstrations upon request.

AT & Toy Loaning Library

In addition to device demonstrations, an individual may also need to borrow equipment before deciding to purchase it to ensure that it works for them. IATP Regional Centers around the state operate loaning libraries that offer Idahoans with disabilities the chance to Borrow AT devices and switch-activated toys at no cost. Length of loan varies, depending on item demand.

Used Equipment Program

The IATP operates a statewide assistive technology reutilization program. This program allows Idahoans with disabilities to buy, sell, and give away used equipment. View a complete listing of equipment at www.idaho.at4all.com.

Assistive Technology Assessments

IATP staff have the expertise to provide assistive technology assessment services. Assessments services provided also include follow-up and follow-along assistance, and training for individuals and teams

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Public Awareness & Information

The IATP conducts public awareness activities throughout Idaho that are designed to increase knowledge about the benefits of assistive technology. These activities include mass mailings, listserv, presentations at in-state conferences and presentations for organizations, agencies, and institutions of higher learning. The IATP maintains a number of AT media including, handbooks, fact sheets, and videos. The IATP has developed the following series of Assistive Technology (AT) handbooks that can be found at www.idahoat.org:

- AT for Older Persons
- AT for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities
- AT for School-age Children with Disabilities
- AT for Parents with Disabilities
- AT for Individuals with Cognitive Impairments
- Hiring Idahoans with Disabilities



Financing Program

The IATP operates a statewide assistive technology financing program in collaboration with multiple Idaho banks. This program provides low-interest loans for the purchase of AT for Idahoans with disabilities of all ages and disability categories.

Anyone who lives in Idaho may apply for a loan; there is no income threshold. Examples of AT devices that can be purchased through the loan program include:

- Communication Devices
- Hearing & Vision Aids
- Home Modifications
- Scooters, Wheelchairs, & Walkers
- Prostheses
- Vehicle Modifications

To receive a loan application, call toll free or download a copy from the IATP website.



Training & Technical Assistance

The IATP offers a wide variety of assistive technology trainings.

- Regional AT Expos
- Live Webinars
- On-demand webinars on the Idaho Training Clearinghouse AT Learning Community
- School In-Service
- AT Strands at Statewide Conferences
- Coordinates the Tools for Life: Secondary Transition and Technology Fair

Trainings are available for groups or organizations upon request. The IATP also provides training to maintain a statewide network of certified Assistive Technology Professionals (ATPs).

The IATP operates statewide information and referral services. Call toll free at 1-800-432-8324 to receive information and consultation about assistive technology at no cost. The IATP also maintains a fully accessible website at www.idahoat.org.

